

## I. General

### A. Executive Summary

The 2007 Annual Action Plan describes how the City of Arlington intends to use Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership funds, and Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) to meet community needs. The Action Plan also serves as the application for funds to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The primary goals of the plan are to provide decent housing, create a suitable living environment, and expand economic opportunities to citizens, particularly low- and moderate-income persons.

The Action Plan describes the use of funds for the third year of the five-year 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan, including activities and budgets that address the needs and priorities established in the Consolidated Plan. Priorities include activities addressing affordable and decent housing, homelessness, special needs, and community development issues. Partnerships with neighboring jurisdictions, the private sector, non-profit organizations, and other City departments will provide support for the successful implementation of this plan.

Several revitalization strategies are directed to the Central Arlington Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) that will create measurable impacts at the neighborhood level. Activities will include the provision of affordable housing, improvements in infrastructure, code enforcement, clearance and demolition of substandard structures, a central Arlington park, and economic development activities.

Action Plan goals are summarized on the following page. Budget details are provided in Attachment A and project information is provided in Attachment B. The Action Plan also reports on the availability of private funds being leveraged by the federal grant funds in Section I.B.4.

The budget and projects included in this Action Plan are based on the entitlement funds as documented in the notice of allocation amounts from HUD. The total amount of funds budgeted in the Action Plan for all three grants, including reprogrammed funds and anticipated program income, is \$5,777,925.

| Source                 | CDBG               | HOME               | ESG              | Total              |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 2007 Allocation        | \$3,256,113        | \$1,418,202        | \$140,774        | \$4,815,089        |
| Program Income         | 102,328            |                    |                  | 102,328            |
| ADDI                   |                    | 36,415             |                  | 36,415             |
| Reprogrammed Funds     | 724,093            |                    |                  | 724,093            |
| CBDO PY 2006 carryover | 100,000            |                    |                  | 100,000            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>\$4,182,534</b> | <b>\$1,454,617</b> | <b>\$140,774</b> | <b>\$5,777,925</b> |

Citizen participation included a public notice, two public hearings, website access to the Action Plan Summary, and hard copy availability of the draft Action Plan at strategic locations. The purpose of the hearings was to obtain citizen comment and to allow individuals and organizations an opportunity to provide input during the planning process. Notices of this Action Plan were published in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on March 11 and 14, 2007 and posted on the City website. Copies of the draft Action Plan were made available at the city's public libraries and on the City website. Citizens had a 30-day period to make comments, from March 12, 2007 through April 11, 2007. Public hearings were held on March 29 and April 9, 2007. The Action Plan is due to HUD on or before May 15, 2007.

### Program Year 2007 Action Plan Goals Summary

| Goals                          |    | Objectives   | Year 3 |
|--------------------------------|----|--|--------|
| Affordable Housing             | 1  | Homebuyers' Assistance   | 50     |
|                                | 2  | Housing Rehabilitation   | 70     |
|                                | 3  | Tenant-Based Rental Assistance                                   | 30     |
| Central Arlington NRSA         | 4  | Mixed-use Residential Facility (See Year 1 Goal)                 | 0      |
|                                | 5  | New Owner-Occupied Housing                                       | 5      |
|                                | 6  | Infrastructure Projects  | 1      |
|                                | 7  | Housing Rehabilitation   | 10     |
|                                | 8  | Homebuyers' Assistance   | 8      |
|                                | 9  | Clearance Demolition   | 2      |
|                                | 10 | Code Enforcement   | 4,000  |
|                                | 11 | Public Facility Improvement                                      | 1      |
| Homelessness                   | 12 | Homeless Shelter Care  | 2,600  |
|                                | 13 | Case Management and Support Services                             | 1,900  |
|                                | 14 | Transitional and Permanent Housing                               | 100    |
|                                | 15 | Outreach Chronic Homeless and Referral to Housing First programs | 5      |
|                                | 16 | Homeless Prevention  | 10     |
|                                | 17 | Support ESG and SHP applications                                 | 2      |
| Special Needs                  | 18 | Housing Rehabilitation for Elderly and Disabled                  | 5      |
|                                | 19 | Meals and Case Management for elderly                            | 200    |
|                                | 20 | Transportation for elderly                                       | 300    |
|                                | 21 | Day Habilitation for Disabled                                    | 25     |
|                                | 22 | Case Management - HIV/AIDS                                       | 50     |
|                                | 23 | Substance Abuse Counseling                                       | 100    |
| Community Development          | 24 | Youth Services (Public Services)                                 | 1,400  |
|                                | 25 | Transportation (Public Services)                                 | 1,200  |
|                                | 26 | Health Services (Public Services)                                | 10,000 |
| Barriers to Affordable Housing | 27 | Homeownership, Credit Repair, and Personal Finance Seminar       | 1      |
| Anti Poverty                   | 28 | Childcare  | 30     |
|                                | 29 | Credit Repair Seminar  | 1      |
|                                | 30 | Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach                                | 1,000  |
| Lead-Based Paint               | 31 | Lead-Based Paint Training  | 1      |
|                                | 32 | Testing to reduce lead hazards                                   | 20     |
| Planning                       | 33 | Homeless Study (See Year 2 Goal)                                 | 0      |
|                                | 34 | Fair Housing Study   | 1      |

See Attachment E for descriptions of 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan objectives.

The City of Arlington has made substantial progress in meeting its 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan goals. The 2005 CAPER reported accomplishments in providing affordable housing, homeless services, services for persons with special needs, and public service community development activities. The City met or exceeded 25 of its 32 performance objectives and made significant progress toward implementing the planned performance objectives. On-going monitoring of Program Year 2006 objectives indicate that a similar level of high performance is anticipated.

## B. General Questions

### 1. Geographic areas of investment

Forty-three percent of the available CDBG funds and 15 percent of the available HOME funds are dedicated to an approved Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) in Central Arlington. Concentrated funding in the NRSA is intended to result in a significant and measurable impact in this target area, which includes 76 percent low- to moderate-income (LMI) individuals, a 29 percent poverty rate, and a high concentration of minority citizens (details and map follow).

**Table A**

| Neighborhood Revitalization Strategic Area Block Groups |          |                  |                    |             |                  |                    |                 |
|---|----------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Block Group   |          | Total Population | Low/Mod Population | Percent L/M | Total Population | Poverty Population | Percent Poverty |
| 1   | 1216.052 | 863              | 552                | 63.96       | 883              | 100                | 11.33           |
| 2   | 1217.032 | 3141             | 2467               | 78.54       | 3143             | 1,029              | 32.74           |
| 3   | 1217.042 | 2147             | 1591               | 74.10       | 2147             | 580                | 27.01           |
| 4   | 1222.001 | 1217             | 1004               | 82.50       | 1225             | 503                | 41.06           |
| 5   | 1222.002 | 792              | 552                | 69.70       | 889              | 214                | 24.07           |
| 6   | 1223.001 | 1417             | 1135               | 80.10       | 1428             | 413                | 28.92           |
| Total   |          | 9577             | 7301               | 76.23       | 9715             | 2,839              | 29.22           |

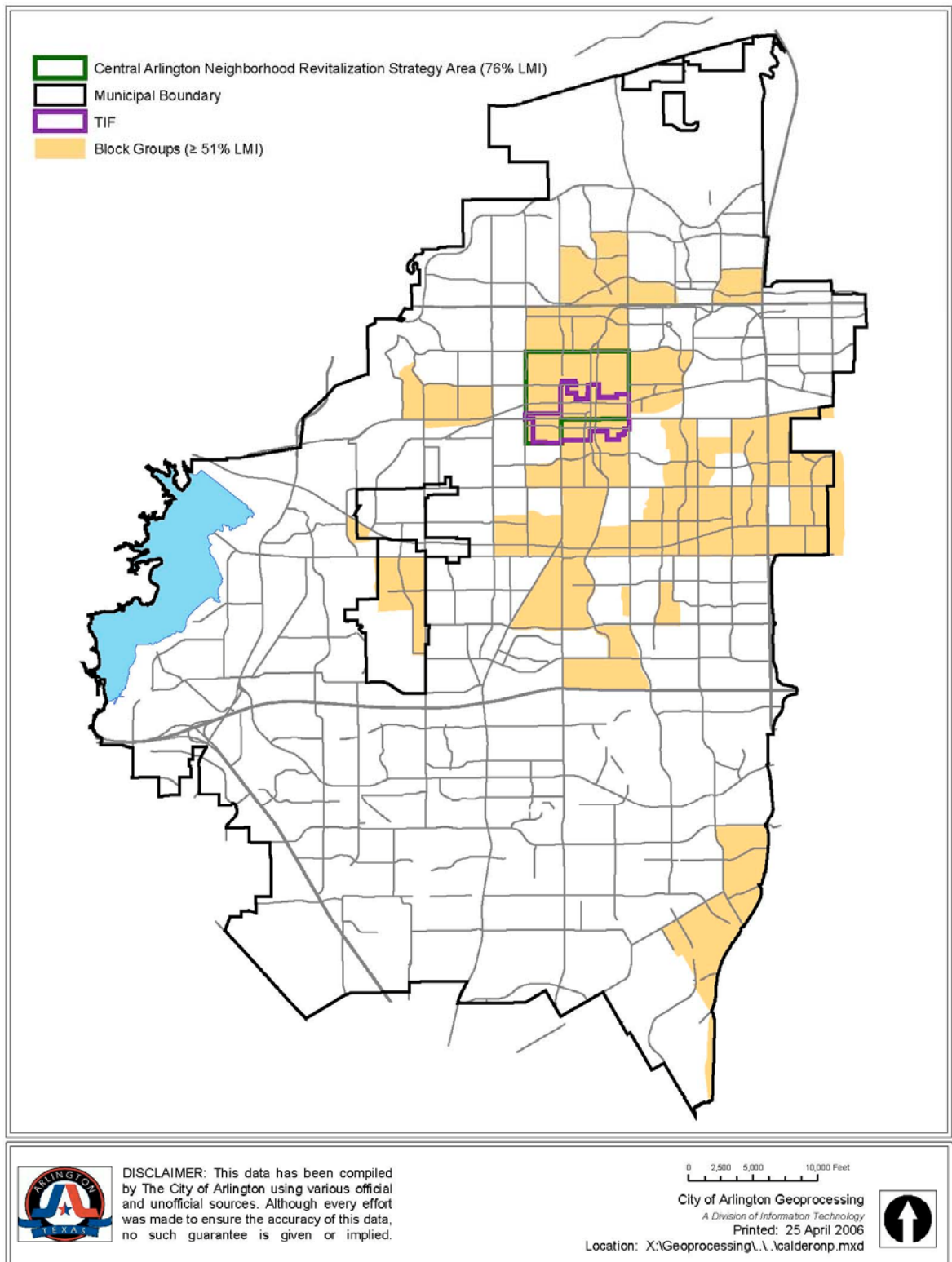
Note: The low/mod information is developed by HUD. "The statistical information used in the calculation of the estimates comes from three tables in Summary File (SF) 3: P9—Household Type (Including Living Alone) by Relationship; P76—Family Income in 1999; and p797—non-family Household Income in 1999." HUD tailors the data to meet the intent of the CDBG program. As a result, total numbers vary in some cases from the poverty information which comes from Summary File 3: P87—Poverty Status in 1999 by Age.

**Table B**

| Race/Ethnicity              | Block Group 1<br>1216.052 | Block Group 2<br>1217.032 | Block Group 3<br>1217.042 | Block Group 4<br>1222.001 | Block Group 5<br>1222.002 | Block Group 6<br>1223.001 | NRSA Avg |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| White                       | 78%                       | 47%                       | 62%                       | 39%                       | 61%                       | 48%                       | 53%      |
| African American            | 6%                        | 11%                       | 15%                       | 9%                        | 15%                       | 10%                       | 11%      |
| Asian/Pacific Island        | 0%                        | 6%                        | 2%                        | 1%                        | 2%                        | 30%                       | 7%       |
| Other**                     | 15%                       | 36%                       | 21%                       | 51%                       | 22%                       | 12%                       | 29%      |
| <b>Hispanic (Ethnicity)</b> | 26%                       | 57%                       | 42%                       | 74%                       | 33%                       | 27%                       | 46%      |

\*\*The "Other" category includes American Indians, Native Hawaiians, persons of more than one race, and those who select "other" race on the census form.

The remaining funds will be distributed city-wide for programs such as Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation, Homebuyers' Assistance, and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Programs. Public service organizations serve persons city-wide and are located primarily in low to moderate income areas as determined by HUD. Arlington's racial and ethnic concentrations exist in these same areas. Detailed information on race, ethnicity, and poverty are provided in the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan.



## 2. Basis for investment allocation

The approved 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan provides the basis for investment allocation of CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds. Investments were allocated geographically within the jurisdiction and priority needs were assigned, based on a combination of methods.

The City contracted with BBC Research & Consulting to provide a comprehensive housing market analysis, including qualitative and quantitative data collection. Information was gathered from HUD, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and other sources. Housing and community development needs were identified and included in the Consolidated Plan.

The City of Arlington conducted an in-depth analysis of related plans and reports to ensure that activities proposed in the Consolidated Plan were coordinated with the plans of public and private sector partners and other governmental entities.

The Arlington City Council has adopted the following priority areas for 2007, which are directly related to activities in the Action Plan:

- Increased code enforcement;
- Reinvigorated neighborhoods;
- Safety for citizens;
- Housing development strategy;
- Quality parks, facilities, and green space;
- Safe and efficient transit services for senior and disabled citizens; and
- Recognized leader in effective economic development policies and practices.

The Arlington Human Service Planners (AHSP), a United Way planning entity, conducted a community needs assessment, which provided a framework for public service, infrastructure, public facilities, and economic development priorities. The following table lists the top ten priorities and the percentage of Arlington community leaders who selected the item as one of their top four choices.

**Arlington Priorities**

| Rank | ISSUE                                       | Percentage |
|------|---|------------|
| 1    | Residents have access to transportation     | 42%        |
| 2    | Affordable housing is available             | 27%        |
| 3    | Mental health services are accessible       | 26%        |
| 4    | Health care is accessible                   | 23%        |
| 5    | Community is safe from crime                | 22%        |
| 6    | Quality, affordable child care is available | 18%        |
| 7    | Prevention of school dropouts               | 18%        |
| 8    | Reduce gang violence                        | 17%        |
| 9    | Transportation for older/disabled           | 15%        |
| 10   | Children ready to learn for starting school | 14%        |

This Action Plan proposes activities that either directly or indirectly address each of these priorities. The 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan analyzes detailed information on race/ethnicity, poverty, housing, homelessness, community

development, and non-homeless special needs. The analysis provides a basis for the development of a strategic plan giving direction to allocation decisions.

Individuals, community groups, business leaders, and elected officials were consulted. After reviewing relevant data and reports, it was determined that a concentrated focus of resources is needed in the Central Arlington area. HUD approved the Central Arlington NRSA and the City's rationale for investing significant funds in the low-income target neighborhood.

### **3. Actions addressing obstacles to meet underserved needs during the coming year**

The principal obstacle to meeting underserved needs is limited funding. Projects that use CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds as seed money will be pursued to leverage other public and private funds. Continuing efforts will be made to secure funding from outside entities such as the North Central Texas Council of Governments. CDBG funds are also paired with City of Arlington general funds administered by other departments to maximize benefits in providing improvements to parks, infrastructure, and NRSA related projects.

### **4. Federal, state, and local resources expected to be available to address needs identified in the plan**

The Arlington Housing Authority (AHA), administrator of Section 8, has received \$23,049,619 for this program year and is expected to receive a similar amount in the coming year. Tarrant County Housing Partnership, a Community Housing Development Organization, will provide a one-quarter match for the proposed \$300,000 grant it will receive to provide affordable housing in the NRSA. The Arlington Housing Finance Corporation provides access to affordable housing to qualifying residents. Bonds are being issued for \$12,857,000 to be used for Single Family mortgages and \$514,280 in Single Family grants. These monies are administered by qualified participating mortgage lenders. A four percent downpayment and closing cost assistance is provided to homebuyers at a competitive interest rate. Fannie Mae also provides mortgage dollars which facilitate HOME and affordable housing activities. The Central Arlington area has been identified as a Fannie Mae deep dive area for the implementation of innovative affordable housing programs.

Resources are available from a variety of sources to enhance community development and housing efforts in the City of Arlington. The City of Arlington has several Tax Increment Finance Districts, which provided resources for downtown revitalization including \$343,085 for historic preservation of the Vandergriff building and the new Shelton office complex.

The Tarrant Area Continuum of Care has received \$8,841,434 in new funds for the 2006 Supportive Housing and Shelter Plus Care Programs. A detail of those funds is provided in Section III.A. The City of Arlington participates in and benefits from the Tarrant Area Continuum of Care planning and program coordination efforts. A similar level of support is anticipated for the coming year. Local shelters and homeless service providers bring additional federal, state, county, and local resources which are dedicated to addressing homeless needs identified in this plan.

CDBG Public Service and ESG subrecipient organizations receive additional resources to successfully execute their projects. They receive varying combinations of federal, state, United Way, foundation, and individual contributions.

## **C. Managing the Process**

### **1. Lead Agency**

The lead agency for overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan is the City of Arlington Grants Management Division of the Community Services Department. This division is responsible for administering programs covered by the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan, including CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs in this 2007 Action Plan. Various activities that support the Consolidated Plan are administered in cooperation with other City departments and/or through contracts with for-profit and non-profit organizations.

### **2. Action Plan development process**

The goals identified in the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan are the foundation for the development of the Program Year 2007 Action Plan. Community organizations were provided an opportunity to review the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan, and begin planning activities in support of the Consolidated Plan strategies. In October 2006, a Request for Proposals workshop was held, inviting these and other organizations to propose activities consistent with the Consolidated Plan.

A citizen's group, under the auspices of AHSP, reviewed and ranked CDBG, HOME, and ESG proposals. This review provided an independent third party assessment of potential Action Plan activities.

Funding requests under the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs were then reviewed by Grants Management staff and the Community and Neighborhood Development (CND) Committee of the City Council. Copies of funding requests, including complete grant proposals, information about the organizations and their proposed activities, and related comments from staff and AHSP, were made available for review in the Mayor and Council Office.

Activity options were presented to the CND Committee. The Committee reviewed these options along with the CDBG, HOME, and ESG proposals and developed Action Plan recommendations for review by citizens and organizations.

The recommendations were made public during a 30-day comment period from March 12 to April 11. Two public hearings were held on March 29 and April 9. Following the public comment period, the City Council reviews the final Action Plan and submits the plan to HUD on or before May 15.

### **3. Actions to enhance coordination**

The Central Arlington Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area steering committee will continue to meet throughout the program year to coordinate

resources for revitalization of the Central Arlington target area. The steering committee consists of residents, businesses, and institutions that are integral to the NRSA project.

The Arlington Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) works with participating mortgage lenders to enable affordable homeownership. They administer the usage of bond funds to provide downpayment and low interest loans to qualified low-income homebuyers. AHFC programs are coordinated with HUD funded homebuyer programs.

The Downtown Development Council is an Arlington Chamber of Commerce initiative working to revitalize downtown Arlington. This group is a coordinated effort of representatives of business, financial institutions, faith-based groups, government, and educational institutions.

The Downtown Arlington Management Corporation is a private, non-profit community development organization operating with a contract for services with the City of Arlington. It is charged, through with initiating and managing economic development efforts for the Downtown/University District. Its purpose is to forge alliances between property owners, business interests, residents and the City of Arlington to improve and enhance the economic vitality and overall environment of Downtown Arlington.

The Arlington Human Service Planners (AHSP) continues under contract with the City of Arlington to promote cooperation and coordination among social service providers in Arlington, the City of Arlington, the Arlington Independent School District, and Tarrant County governmental institutions. Other groups that enhance coordination efforts include the AHSP Coordinating Committee, the Social Services Providers Network, The Tarrant Area Continuum of Care, and the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition.

Grants Management staff will continue to meet regularly with other City departments to coordinate activities using CDBG, City general funds, and other grant funds.

## **D. Citizen Participation**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process**

Citizens, organizations, and elected officials were integrally involved in the development of the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan which established the five-year strategies proposed in this Action Plan.

Notices informing the public of the Action Plan were published in the newspaper on March 11 and 14, 2007. The notices announced a 30-day public comment period from March 12 through April 11. Two public hearings were held during that time period. The first hearing was held on March 29 at 5:30 p.m. The second hearing was held in the City Hall Council briefing room on April 9 at 5:30 p.m. Both hearings were held in the evening to allow for greater citizen participation.

The proposed Action Plan was made available for review and comment by citizens, public organizations, and other interested parties prior to City Council approval. The Action Plan Summary is available through the City

website, the City Manager's Office, public libraries, and the Community Services Grants Management Division. The Executive Summary describes the contents and purpose of the Action Plan and lists locations where a copy of the Action Plan may be examined or obtained. The Plan is also available to any citizen or public or private organization requesting a copy.

## **2. Summary of citizen comments**

Citizens were given the opportunity to speak at two public hearings or to submit written comments during the 30-day public comment period. The first public hearing was held on March 29, 2007. A group not recommended for funding attended the first public hearing to receive information about how to improve next year's application. The second public hearing was held April 9 in the Council briefing room in City Hall. A current subrecipient attended the second public hearing to clarify requirements for CDBG funds. No written comments were received. The public notice and public hearing summary information are included in Attachments C and D.

## **3. Inclusion of minorities, non-English speakers, and individuals with disabilities**

The City sought diverse public participation in the development of the Action Plan. Invitations to the Request for Proposals workshop included current subrecipients. Additionally, invitations were mailed to Asian and Hispanic organizations, as well as organizations serving persons with disabilities. A broad range of public service organizations proposed activities that are responsive to the needs of minorities, non-English speakers, and individuals with disabilities. The Grant Review Committee, which assessed proposals and made funding recommendations, included a diverse group of four African Americans and one Hispanic.

Notices announcing the public hearings and public comment period were published in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and were posted on the City website. Notices were in English and Spanish. They indicated that special assistance would be provided as needed, including Spanish language translation. The sites of both hearings were wheelchair accessible.

The City of Arlington has assessed the number of Arlington residents with limited English proficiency. The 2000 U.S. Census indicates that there are 35,709 individuals five years and over who speak English less than "very well". The method for providing assistance to persons with limited English proficiency is based on the frequency of contact and the nature and importance of the program. Essential written materials are provided in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. The City provides language pay to employees who are available to provide oral translation services to non-English speaking citizens. Employees speak a wide range of languages. Spanish and Vietnamese are most in demand.

#### **4. Written explanation of comments not accepted**

No written comments were received. Consequently, no comments were considered to be "not accepted" and no revisions were required.

### **E. Institutional Structure**

#### **1. Actions to develop institutional structure**

The Grants Management Division works in partnership with public institutions and private and nonprofit partners to implement activities and projects that require multiple funding sources. Staff works with other City departments to develop coordinated plans and to leverage resources for parks, infrastructure, code enforcement, clearance of substandard structures, housing development, and other projects in the Central Arlington NRSA. Coordination with and support from adjacent HUD entitlement grantees and the North Central Texas Council of Governments is also sought as appropriate.

CDBG funds dedicated to the NRSA are primarily seed money. Consequently, outreach efforts will be made to secure the involvement of small business owners and developers. Their participation is essential for the success of the economic development and housing strategies in the Central Arlington NRSA target area.

The Arlington Housing Authority (AHA) has an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the City of Arlington to oversee the City's housing rehabilitation program. AHA also receives HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance funds which provide them with an additional tool for serving low-income households and special needs clients. AHA will also receive CDBG and ESG funds to provide homeless prevention services.

The City of Arlington contracts with Arlington Human Service Planners (AHSP), a volunteer driven local arm of the United Way of Metropolitan Tarrant County, to provide services. AHSP brings citizens together to identify and study specific human service needs and to recommend priorities and projects. AHSP also provides a networking and coordinating function among social service providers, emergency housing, and nonprofits in Arlington. The AHSP work plan for FY 2007-2008 includes the following: provide staffing for the grant review committee and conduct roundtables and studies of issues that have been identified as priority needs in Arlington. AHSP will also provide support to the Arlington Assets for Working Families Coalition which assists families in obtaining the Earned Income Tax Credit.

The City's capacity to address public service needs is strengthened through the services provided by subrecipient organizations. Recognizing that CDBG funds are decreasing, the Request for Proposal criteria will be refined to assure the targeting of public service dollars to areas of highest need. The Request for Proposals process will be updated in consultation with AHSP.

### **F. Monitoring**

## **1. Actions to monitor projects and ensure compliance**

The City of Arlington monitors its CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs to ensure compliance with HUD regulations and attainment of Consolidated Plan goals. Annual Action Plan activities are set up and tracked in IDIS and in a shared financial reconciliation spreadsheet to allow ongoing review of activity expenditures and program activity. Data entry into IDIS is completed monthly and standard IDIS reports are reviewed for accuracy by the appropriate program staff according to an IDIS Standard Operating Procedure.

Action Plan activity outputs and outcomes are also reviewed at least quarterly to determine which activities are projected to meet planned performance goals. Additionally, dashboard reports provide a concise performance summary to inform department heads and other interested parties.

The City ensures timely expenditure of CDBG funds by the following actions:

- Establishing and tracking expenditure benchmarks for projects;
- Careful selection of qualified subrecipients and ongoing technical assistance provided to new and experienced subrecipients;
- Annual subrecipient workshop to review monthly reporting and monitoring requirements;
- Monthly desk reviews which includes tracking of subrecipient expenditures and program activity;
- Reprogramming of funds for activities that are below prorated expenditure rates.

The City employs a Grants Coordinator for Compliance to monitor internal operations and subrecipient agreements. Additional staff assist with internal monitoring duties according to local policies and procedures. Monitoring includes Davis-Bacon compliance, financial monitoring for program reimbursements, compliance with national objectives, consistency with HUD requirements, contract compliance, and program match requirements.

A Standard Operating Procedure details the sequence of steps in monitoring subrecipient agreements. Procedures include the request for proposals, proposal review, grant award process, the subrecipient risk analysis, and monitoring. Subrecipient monitoring includes monthly desk reviews prior to the reimbursement of payment requests.

At the beginning of each grant year, a monitoring Risk Analysis is completed for all subrecipients, CHDO's, and renovation projects. The Risk Analysis identifies risk criteria and establishes a base-line level of risk for each entity. Entities are assigned levels of monitoring based outcomes of the Risk Analysis. Subrecipients and CHDO's are notified of the level of monitoring, which they have been assigned, prior to the execution of their contract. A preliminary schedule of on-site monitoring visits is established prior to the beginning of the program year.

The level of monitoring can be adjusted during the contract period for reasons such as non-compliance with contract provisions, failure to meet performance objectives, failure to submit accurate and timely monthly reports, findings

identified from monitoring, staff turnover in key positions of the organization, and other identified changes that increase the risk of administering grant funds. Program staff assures that subrecipients and CHDO's expend funds in a timely manner. Non-compliance can result in suspension of funds, termination of the contract, and request for repayment of all funds provided under the contract.

Compliance with HOME affordability periods is enforced through recapture agreements and lien documents for the Homebuyers' Assistance Program, acquisition/ rehabilitation, and new construction activities. Inspections are performed and documented for these programs in project files. Program requirements include an annual verification of occupancy. For rental, annual inspections are performed for the one rental complex that was HOME funded. Under the HOME program, the rental project is not required to have all units inspected annually; however, since most tenants are on Section 8, the units are required to be inspected under that program.

Housing rehabilitation projects occur only when projects meet a feasibility test. A scope of work is prepared after an inspection of the property. After all work is completed, it is determined that all permits were satisfactorily secured before a final inspection occurs. Photos are taken before and after rehabilitation for documentation purposes.

## **G. Lead-based Paint**

### **1. Actions proposed to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards**

The BBC analysis of low-income households and age of housing units estimated that there are 3,100 low- to moderate-income households living in units at risk of containing lead-based paint. The primary means by which lead poisoning among young children can be prevented is to have lead-safe housing. The following activities will be implemented by the City of Arlington's housing programs to reduce or eliminate lead hazards in federally assisted housing units built before 1978.

- a. Offer a lead-based paint training seminar to contractors for the City's Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program and subrecipients. All contractors used by the City of Arlington have "Safe Work Practices" or "Lead Abatement" certification.
- b. Issue the pamphlet "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home" to each household scheduled for rehabilitation under the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation and Emergency Repair Programs.
- c. Provide unit occupants with notification of the results of any lead hazard evaluation or the presumption of lead-based paint or hazards after results are determined.
- d. Provide unit occupants with notification of the results of hazard reduction activities. The type of reduction activity will vary according to the level of assistance provided.

- e. Utilize funds for recipients of the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program and the Emergency Repair Program for lead remediation activities as needed.

The goals of lead reduction activities are to: 1) reduce lead poisoning or the risk of lead poisoning to children and families; 2) educate families about lead poisoning prevention; and 3) provide intervention through the reduction of lead-based paint hazards in pre-1978 units that contain lead-based paint hazards in the City's federally assisted housing programs.

## **II. Housing**

### **A. Specific Housing Objectives**

#### **1. Description of priorities and objectives during the next year**

The provision of affordable housing for Arlington residents is a high priority that will be carried out by funding activities for homebuyers' assistance, housing rehabilitation, new owner-occupied housing, mixed-use development, and tenant-based rental assistance.

CDBG funds are being allocated for the Housing Rehabilitation Program which will be offered citywide to maintain and improve existing housing stock. In addition, prior year HOME funds will be used to supplement the Housing Rehabilitation Program budget. The purpose of the housing rehabilitation program is to assist low-income property owners with basic repairs to meet their needs for safe and decent housing. Rehabilitation is intended to enhance, improve, and preserve neighborhoods. The Housing Rehabilitation Program was expanded during Program Year 2006 to include eligible rental properties located in a designated target area (currently the Central Arlington Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area) that are owned by non-profit agencies and occupied by low-income households.

HOME and American Dream Down Payment Initiative (ADDI) funds are being allocated for the Arlington Homebuyers' Assistance Program (AHAP) which will be offered citywide. Citizens purchasing homes in the Central Arlington NRSA will receive additional incentives consistent with policies for targeted areas.

Homebuyers receive a zero percent interest-rate loan which is forgivable if they live in the house for the affordability period. If the home is sold prior to the end of the affordability period, a prorated portion of the loan may be required to be repaid from net proceeds. It is expected that twenty of the sixty eight new homeowners will be minorities.

HOME funds will be used to provide New Owner-Occupied Housing. This affordable housing will be developed for income-eligible households in the Central Arlington NRSA. HOME funds will also be used for mixed-use residential facilities in the NRSA. It is anticipated that the first floor will house retail businesses and office space, while additional floors will have mixed-income rental units.

The City of Arlington has affirmative marketing procedures which include minority outreach and which are in compliance with 24 CFR 92.351 and apply to rental and homebuyer projects containing five or more HOME-assisted housing units. The City of Arlington and owners of HOME-assisted housing will take the following steps to assure outreach to minority groups and provide affirmative marketing without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, familial status, or disability.

- The Equal Housing Opportunity logotype or slogan will be used in press releases, solicitations by owners, advertising, public service announcements, webpage information, and brochures.
- Program materials and brochures will be available in English as well as the language spoken by minority groups residing in the service or target area.
- Information about ongoing HOME funded programs, as well as new housing projects using HOME funds, will be provided to public and non-profit groups, lenders, social service agencies, community leaders, neighborhood groups, realty groups, or other interested groups through presentations at meetings and distribution of print materials. Information to be communicated will include a program description, the location where applications are accepted, the time frame for accepting applications, and a statement that the funding is limited.
- Populations that are not likely to apply for assistance without special outreach efforts will be identified, including minority groups. Additional marketing efforts will be directed toward these populations and appropriate community organizations.
- HOME program staff will monitor affirmative marketing activities.

Additionally, the City of Arlington is committed to ensuring the participation of minorities in all its programming to the maximum extent possible. Minority and women-owned entities are identified and receive information on all HOME related projects, allowing them to submit bids. Contracts with CHDOs and others have a provision that encourages the use of historically underutilized businesses, sub-contractors, and suppliers who are 51 percent owned by racial or ethnic minorities and/or women.

The Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program will continue to be provided citywide to maintain the availability of affordable housing to low-income renters. The Consolidated Plan provided a housing gaps analysis identifying rental units, their affordability to various income ranges, the number of cost burdened renters, and the number in different special needs populations. It then determined that rental assistance for low-income families was a priority housing need.

The City of Arlington will conduct a Fair Housing Study during the program year. The last study was completed in February 2002. The study will identify impediments to fair housing and provide recommendations for addressing those impediments in Arlington.

## 2. Federal, state, and local resources to address identified needs

The following resources will be available to address identified needs:

| Resource   | Amount              |
|--|---------------------|
| Arlington Housing Authority Section 8                      | \$21,297,548        |
| Tarrant County Housing Partnership                         | \$53,750            |
| Single Family bond issue                                   | \$12,857,000*       |
| Arlington Housing Finance Corporation Single Family grants | \$514,280 *         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>\$34,722,578</b> |

\* - Used as match

Additional resources that may be available include:

- Low-Income Housing Tax Credits
- Multi-family and Mortgage Revenue Bonds
- Grants from Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Federal Home Loan Bank Board
- Other local resources such as the Chamber of Commerce, private sector investments, and Tax Increment Financing funds

## B. Needs of Public Housing

### 1. Plan for addressing public housing needs

There is no public housing in Arlington. There are neither activities funded by HUD's Comprehensive Grant Program nor results from a public housing Section 504 assessment to review. Therefore, the public housing section of the Action Plan does not apply.

### 2. Improvements of Public Housing Authority if designated "troubled"

This section is not applicable, since the Arlington Housing Authority has not been designated "troubled."

## C. Barriers to Affordable Housing

### 1. Actions to remove barriers to affordable housing

Current public policies do not serve as substantial barriers to affordable housing; therefore, no actions are necessary to remove negative affects of such. However, the City recognizes that the development process can be streamlined to facilitate the provision of housing for its residents. The City has developed a one-start center to expedite the plan review process and to enable developers to move expeditiously through the development process.

## D. HOME/ American Dream Down-Payment Initiative (ADDI)

### 1. Describe other forms of investment not described in 92.205(b)

The City will not engage in any form of investment using HOME funds that is not described in 24 CFR 92.205 (b).

## **2. Guidelines for resale and recapture**

**COVERED COSTS:** Homebuyers who are assisted with City HOME funds will be required to provide a minimum of \$1,000 as a down payment. The City's HOME subsidy, along with the lenders' and title companies' reduced and/or waived fees, will contribute to the remaining portion of expenses charged to the buyer for down payment, prepaid expenses, and other closing costs normally associated with the purchase of a home.

**FINANCING TERMS:** HOME funds will be secured by a subordinate lien listing the City of Arlington as the lien-holder. The buyer will sign a Subordinate Deed of Trust and a Promissory Note. The buyer will receive assistance in the form of a no-interest/deferred loan. The following will trigger repayment of the outstanding balance on the subordinate lien loan:

- discovery that the applicant knowingly falsified an application and was actually ineligible for assistance;
- buyer ceases to use the home as the principal residence; or
- sale of the property prior to the expiration of the affordability period.

**RECAPTURE POLICY:** Homeowners receiving down payment assistance will meet the affordability period if they remain in their home for the time specified (normally five years). The federal assistance, provided in the form of a forgivable loan, is forgiven when this condition is met. If the home is sold prior to the end of the affordability period, the City of Arlington implements a recapture policy. This option allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; however, a portion of the net proceeds from the sale will be returned to the City to be used for other eligible HOME activities. The portion of net proceeds returned to the City is the percent of HOME funds invested in the property, less the percent of the amount forgiven (i.e., 1.67 percent per month or 20 percent per year). Funds are recaptured only as available from net proceeds from the sale. Additional information regarding recapture provisions is detailed in the AHAP policy.

## **3. Guidelines if HOME funds are used to refinance existing debt**

Refinancing guidelines are not applicable.

## **4. The City of Arlington use of ADDI funds**

### **a. Planned use of ADDI Funds**

The planned use of ADDI funds is first-time homebuyers' assistance to income-eligible individuals with down payment and closing cost assistance. Forgivable zero percent interest-rate loan of \$7,500 is provided to homebuyers to purchase homes citywide; \$10,000 is provided to homebuyers to purchase homes in the NRSA, or for households with a household member who is disabled.

### **b. Outreach to Public Housing Tenants with ADDI Funds**

The City of Arlington works cooperatively with the Arlington Housing Authority in assisting Section 8 recipients to become homeowners. Information on the Homebuyers' Assistance Program using ADDI funds is provided to Section 8 clients served through the Arlington Housing Authority.

c. Homeownership Efforts with ADDI Funds

The Arlington Homebuyers' Assistance Program provides down payment and closing cost assistance using ADDI funds. Applicants are required to take homebuyer education services through a HUD approved agency. These services are designed to prepare clients to become successful homeowners. This housing counseling enhances the likelihood that families will successfully transition from renters to homeowners.

### III. HOMELESS

#### A. Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

##### 1. Sources of funds for addressing homeless needs and homeless prevention

The City of Arlington participates in the Tarrant Area Continuum of Care. The Continuum received \$8,841,434 in new funds for the 2006 Supportive Housing and Shelter Plus Care Programs as presented in the table below. Organizations providing services to Arlington residents are identified with an asterisk.

**2006 Continuum of Care Funding**

| Organization                     | Amount    | Type of Project   |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---|
| All Church Home for Children     | \$113,922 | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Arlington Housing Authority*     | 405,461   | Renewal Supportive Housing<br>Renewal Shelter Plus Care |
| Arlington Life Shelter*          | 168,402   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Community Enrichment Center*     | 1,280,491 | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Cornerstone Assistance Network   | 297,566   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Day Resource Center              | 704,494   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Dental Health for Arlington*     | 29,370    | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Fort Worth Housing Authority     | 3,646,812 | Renewal Shelter Plus Care                               |
| GRACE                            | 24,237    | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Legal Aid of Northwest Texas*    | 16,532    | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| MHMR *                           | 292,497   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Open Arms Home                   | 9,958     | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Presbyterian Night Shelter       | 181,077   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| SafeHaven of Tarrant County*     | 224,371   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Salvation Army*                  | 322,293   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Tarrant County*                  | 121,252   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |
| Tarrant County ACCESS*           | 149,805   | Renewal HMIS  |
| Tarrant County Samaritan Housing | 334,346   | Renewal Supportive Housing                              |

### 2006 Continuum of Care Funding

| Organization                  | Amount             | Type of Project            |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Texas Inmate Services*        | 109,468            | Renewal Supportive Housing |
| Volunteers of America*        | 295,287            | Renewal Supportive Housing |
| YWCA of Fort Worth & Tarrant* | 113,793            | Renewal Supportive Housing |
| <b>2006 Total Funds</b>       | <b>\$8,841,434</b> |                            |

The City of Arlington received less funding through the Continuum of Care in 2006 and lost 28 beds for homeless persons, with the loss of a Supportive Housing grant. The City plans to focus efforts on increasing resources for chronically homeless and anticipates applying for future funding for permanent housing units, though its Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.

The City of Arlington proposes to use ESG funds to support the three principal homeless shelters that are operating in Arlington. The general homeless population is served by the Arlington Life Shelter. Victims of domestic violence are sheltered at the SafeHaven of Tarrant County, formerly The Women's Shelter. The Salvation Army provides a 12-week transitional sheltering program for homeless families with children. Each shelter's ability to serve the homeless population is strengthened by the collaborative efforts provided through the Continuum of Care. Additionally, funds will be set aside through an interlocal agreement with the Arlington Housing Authority for a homeless prevention program. Matching funds for ESG programs will be provided through a variety of sources such as donations, CDBG funds, and in-kind services.

The following table provides a summary of services provided for the homeless persons in Arlington.

| Organization   | Type of Housing | Target Population   | Number of Beds |                        |
|--|-----------------|---|----------------|------------------------|
|  |                 |   | Individual     | Families with Children |
| SafeHaven of Tarrant County                                | Emergency       | Single women with children                                | 0              | 72                     |
| Arlington Life Shelter (ALS)                               | Emergency       | Men, women, children                                      | 52             | 35                     |
| Tarrant County Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (1)          | Transitional    | Single men and women, female victims of domestic violence | 4              | 24                     |
| Arlington Housing Authority/Arlington Life Shelter (SHP)   | Transitional    | Families with children                                    | 12             | 16                     |
| Salvation Army Arlington (2)                               | Transitional    | Families with children                                    | 0              | 35                     |
| Arlington Housing Authority – Shelter Plus Care (23 units) | Permanent       | Single men and women                                      | 16             | 21                     |
| <b>Total</b>   |                 |   | <b>84</b>      | <b>203</b>             |

Note: (1) This includes 1 bed for individuals and 4 beds for families with children at the Arlington Life Shelter and 3 beds for individuals and 20 beds for families with children at SafeHaven of Tarrant County.

(2) The Salvation Army has a capacity for 14 homeless families; therefore, the bed capacity depends upon the average family size (2.5).

Sources: Tarrant County PY 2005 Continuum of Care Narrative, Arlington Housing Authority, PY2005 Emergency Shelter Grant Homeless Individuals Served Reports

## 2. Addressing homelessness objectives in the Strategic Plan

The City of Arlington has begun the planning process to develop its own Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. The University of Texas at Arlington is under contract to assist the City in developing the plan. Highlights of the process include gathering information by using focus groups, interviews, and surveys of providers, homeless persons, and other community stakeholders. A final written report will include recommendations for community development and resource utilization. Findings will be presented to relevant stakeholders as required by the City of Arlington Homeless Taskforce.

The City will continue to support local service provider efforts to reduce homelessness, participate in county-wide planning efforts to end chronic homelessness, and address the range of needs of homeless individuals and families as identified by the Continuum of Care plan. In the past, the City has identified supportive services, transitional housing, permanent housing, and services to the chronically homeless as high priority areas to address. The new efforts to study and identify current homeless needs will yield additional, more specific needs unique to Arlington. Participation in the County-wide Continuum of Care planning process and the Fort Worth *Ten Year Plan* are also a high priority for Arlington. A City of Arlington staff person participates as a member of the Fort Worth Mayor's Committee on Homelessness.

**Outreach/Assessment:** The City will continue to coordinate with organizations that interface with homeless individuals and support their efforts to serve and refer clients to housing resources. Organizations in Arlington that most often interface with homeless individuals and families include the Arlington Independent School District, Arlington Housing Authority, Mental Health Mental Retardation of Tarrant County (MHMR), AIDS Outreach Center, Workforce Development Center, Recovery Resource Council (formerly Tarrant Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse), Mission Metroplex, The Salvation Army, SafeHaven of Tarrant County, YWCA of Fort Worth and Tarrant, and Arlington Life Shelter. Each of these organizations has intake and assessment tools which record the needs of homeless individuals and provide appropriate referrals.

Outreach tools for case managers have been implemented, such as the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition website, which contains links to a variety of provider resources, and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), which has assessment and referral tools. The City will continue to work with local providers and the Continuum of Care to enhance referral systems and build partnerships to increase access to services for homeless individuals.

**Emergency Shelter:** The City will continue to support the existing emergency shelters in Arlington and explore alternative services for individuals who do not meet local shelter requirements. The City of Arlington has received "Report on Homeless Youth Task Force" from Arlington Human Service Planners. The goal of the Task Force was to identify recommendations to address sheltering needs of the homeless youth in Arlington. In response to the report, All Church Home for Children has applied for a grant to coordinate services for homeless youth in Arlington. Additional information on their coordination efforts will be available throughout the program year.

**Transitional/Permanent Housing:** The City will continue to support existing transitional housing programs and will explore additional permanent housing resources.

Specific strategies for addressing the needs of the chronically homeless and for preventing homelessness are outlined in questions 3 and 4 below.

### **3. Actions to eliminate chronic homelessness**

As mentioned in A.2 above, the City of Arlington is working with the University of Texas at Arlington School of Social Work to assess the current needs of the chronically homeless and develop a plan to address these needs. The City's Community Services Department also actively participates in the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, Continuum of Care planning process, and the Fort Worth planning process to end chronic homelessness. These efforts include service providers, homeless individuals, neighborhood groups, business leaders, and elected officials, representing a wide spectrum of concern about homeless issues.

Homeless providers who are funded by the City of Arlington are required to submit monthly reports outlining the number and type of individuals who meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless.<sup>1</sup> The City will analyze monthly reports of services provided to chronically homeless individuals in relationship to needs identified in the homeless survey and information gathered by outreach agencies such as MHMR and AIDS Outreach. This analysis will identify specific gaps in service to this subpopulation.

Barriers to serving the chronically homeless may include restrictive shelter policies, a lack of specialized treatments (e.g., substance abuse, mental illness, serious medical conditions), and a lack of resources. Arlington homeless providers have emphasized employment readiness in order to move clients from homelessness to self-sufficiency. However, for the chronically homeless population, employment readiness may not be an immediate reality and, therefore, alternative service strategies are needed. The "housing first" strategy will be explored, whereby homeless individuals with multiple problems are provided housing first, then provided supportive services necessary to remain housed. City of Arlington staff will explore these strategies further by participating in the ten year planning process to end chronic homelessness and by coordinating with existing and new homeless service providers.

### **4. Actions to address homelessness prevention**

Homeless prevention activities in Arlington include a variety of partnerships to address housing, education, employment, health, and other human service needs. AHSP links providers in a variety of ways to ensure that residents are aware of available services to low-income residents. A *Directory of Community Resources* is published annually as a guide for service referrals. Alternative sources of homeless prevention information include the 211

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<sup>1</sup> HUD defines a chronically homeless person as an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more or who has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.

telephone number to United Way's 24-hour Community Information and Referral Service and the online list of Arlington community social service providers.

The City of Arlington's strategy to help prevent homelessness for individuals and families at risk of homelessness include funding services such as:

- ESG prevention funds to provide rent and utility payments for individuals facing eviction and utility termination;
- CDBG funds as match for ESG homeless prevention services;
- CDBG funds for low-income dental care, employment assistance, transportation assistance, and other supportive services;
- CDBG funds for planning entities to continue to identify and address community needs;
- CDBG funds to support participation in community-wide planning efforts to end chronic homelessness and to provide a continuum of coordinated homeless services; and
- HOME funds for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance. Assistance is given to special needs clients referred and managed by social service agencies for a period of up to two years. Priority is given to persons who are homeless, elderly and/or disabled.

#### **5. Implementation of a Community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy**

Jurisdictions receiving McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Supportive Housing, and/or Shelter Plus Care funds must develop and implement a Discharge Coordination Policy. The City of Arlington has adopted and supports the Discharge Planning Policy outlined in the current Continuum of Care Application.

### **B. Emergency Shelter Grants (states only) - Not Applicable**

## **IV. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **A. Community Development**

#### **1. Priority non-housing community development needs**

Arlington will concentrate a portion of CDBG funds in the area of most need, the Central Arlington NRSA. A needs analysis identified the following priority non-housing community development needs in Arlington:

- Public Facilities (Medium)
- Public Improvements and Infrastructure (High)
- Public Services (High)
- Economic Development (High)
- Historic Preservation (Medium)

- Neighborhood Integrity (High)
- Planning (High)

## 2. Long-term and short-term community development objectives

The following table provides an overview of community development objectives that are addressed by this Action Plan and found in Section I.A.1.

| Community Development  |                 |   |  |          |
|--|-----------------|---|--|----------|
| Strategy   | Funding Sources | Service Delivery & Management                                 | Planned Activity   | Location |
| <b>Public Services:</b><br>Meet the human and social service needs of the Arlington community with available funds | CDBG            | Community Services (CS) Grants Mgt.<br>Nonprofit partnerships | Provide 15% of CDBG grant and program income to human service agencies   | Citywide |
|  |                 |   | Provide services to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth</li> <li>• Seniors</li> <li>• Homeless</li> <li>• Persons with disabilities</li> <li>• Other low-income</li> </ul> |          |
|  |                 |   | 1 Technical Assistance Workshop  |          |
| <b>Affordable Housing</b>  | Home ADDI       | CS HOME Mgt.<br>Leverage private funds                        | Homebuyers' Assistance   | Citywide |
|  | CDBG HOME       | CS Grants Mgt.<br>Leverage private funds                      | Housing Rehabilitation   |          |
|  | HOME            | CS Grants Mgt.<br>Leverage private funds                      | Owner-occupied housing   | NRSA     |
| <b>Central Arlington NRSA</b>  | CDBG            | CS Grants Mgt.<br>Leverage private funds                      | Infrastructure Improvements  | NRSA     |
|  | CDBG            | CS Grants Mgt.<br>Non-profit partnership                      | Support Community Based Development Org.   | NRSA     |
|  | CDBG            | CS Grants Mgt.<br>Leverage public and private funds           | Projects to enhance community development  | NRSA     |
|  | HOME            | CS Grants Mgt.<br>Leverage Private funds                      | New Owner-occupied housing   | NRSA     |
|  | CDBG            | CS Grants. Mgt.   | Code Enforcement   | NRSA     |
|  | CDBG            | CS Grants Mgt.  | Clearance/Demolition   | NRSA     |
|  | CDBG            | CS Grants Mgt.<br>Leverage public funds                       | Central Arlington Park   | NRSA     |

A Request for Proposals was issued to address objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan for the Central Arlington NRSA. Innovative projects using funds designated for neighborhood revitalization were solicited. Since the response was limited, an updated RFP will be issued prior to July 1, 2007 for specific economic development projects.



## **B. Antipoverty Strategy**

### **1. Actions to reduce the number of poverty level families**

To help reduce the number of families under the poverty level, the City of Arlington plans to use both the HUD entitlement grant and program income to provide the maximum amount of funding allowable for public services. CDBG public service dollars will be used to assist low-income families with needs such as transportation, child care, case management, meals, emergency shelter, and other supportive services. In addition, the City will coordinate with public and private organizations to produce and preserve affordable housing and related services for low-income persons in the city.

The City of Arlington plans to reduce the number of families in poverty through strategies such as:

- Continued funding for housing, community, and economic development programs and services to low-income residents;
- Concentrated redevelopment and services in the Central Arlington Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area, where approximately one in four persons lives in poverty;
- Continued support of the Arlington Human Service Planners;
- Continued support of services to homeless families and families at risk of homelessness to increase housing options;
- Continued support of information and referral networks to allow easier access to community resources; and
- Dissemination of information about specific anti-poverty programs such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, Family Self-Sufficiency Program, Head Start, and mainstream public assistance resources (e.g., TANF, Food Stamps, Workforce Investment Act, and Medicaid).

Increasing access to the Earned Income Tax Credit will continue to be a focus during the program year. It is estimated that approximately \$10 million in Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is left unclaimed by more than 6,600 working families in Arlington. Community Services staff will continue to coordinate with the Arlington Human Service Planners to expand an ongoing initiative to provide outreach, education, and assistance to assist these working families in claiming the EITC. This effort includes maintaining an EITC information and education webpage on the City's website. In conjunction with the City's EITC initiative, the City will also continue to sponsor financial education workshops throughout the year to make citizens aware of EITC funds and to offer suggestions for using the funds to help get out of debt or create investment.

The Tax Center, sponsored by the non-profit Foundation Communities, provides tax preparation services at their Shadow Brook Apartments. In the past two years, the Tax Center has assisted families in securing over \$600,000 in EITC. The nonprofit will receive \$22,000 in CDBG funding during the program year to provide free tax preparation assistance to low- and moderate-income citizens. Community Services staff will work to identify funding sources and community partnerships to help expand their services.

## **V. NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS**

### **A. Non-homeless Special Needs**

#### **1. Priorities and Objectives**

The City of Arlington plans to serve individuals with special needs (e.g., elderly, disabled, substance abuse problems, mental illness, and individuals with HIV/AIDS) through the following programs:

- Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
- Architectural Barrier Removal
- Emergency Housing Repair
- Homeownership Assistance
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
- Public Services

The City of Arlington plans to provide the Housing Rehabilitation Program to low- and moderate-income citizens, including those who are elderly and disabled. The goal is to maintain and improve existing housing stock for residents who cannot afford costly repairs. A related program will provide architectural barrier removal to improve accessibility and livability of homes for individuals with disabilities. Emergency housing repairs will also be provided to address special needs.

Supportive services for individuals with special needs will be assisted by CDBG Public Services funds. The City proposes to assist with the funding of support services such as:

- meals for senior citizens,
- transportation for the elderly and homeless,
- case management for individuals with alcohol and substance abuse problems and HIV/AIDS,
- dental treatment for individuals with special needs, and
- day care for adults with severe disabilities.

The Action Plan Summary in Section I.A. provides numbers to be served for all activities.

#### **2. Federal, state, and local resources to address identified needs**

The City of Arlington will coordinate with existing federal, state, and local resources to serve populations with special needs. Additionally, it will provide the maximum CDBG amount allowed by federal regulation to support public services projects. Information on funds available to support special needs citizens is included in the following chart. This chart includes Continuum of Care funds, the Ryan White Grant, the Tarrant County Public Health Department, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, Social Security Income (SSI), the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Food Stamps, and other resources.

**Resources for Low-Income and Special Needs Population  
Arlington/Tarrant County  
2006 Estimates**

| <b>Program</b>  | <b>Dollars</b>       | <b>Year</b> |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services   | \$2,400,000          | 2006        |
| Emergency Shelter Grant – Arlington   | 140,774              | 2007        |
| Employment Services - Job matching services   | 2,265,857            | 2006        |
| Food Stamp assistance   | \$142,139,147        | 2006        |
| Food Stamp Employment and Training  | 528,529              | 2006        |
| HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Fort Worth)  | 805,000              | 2005        |
| HOPWA Competitive (Tarrant County)  | 271,117              | 2005        |
| Housing Choice Vouchers Arlington   | 22,284,844           | 2006        |
| Housing Choice Vouchers Tarrant County  | 13,745,557           | 2005        |
| Hurricane Katrina National Emergency Grant Funds  | 1,215,841            | 2006        |
| Medicaid  | 32,300,740           | 2004        |
| Project RIO - Re-integration of Offenders Employment Program  | 271,256              | 2006        |
| Ryan White  | 6,899,027*           | 2006        |
| SAMHSA - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  | 500,00               | 2005        |
| Shelter + Care Rental Vouchers Arlington  | 405,461              | 2006        |
| Shelter + Care Rental Vouchers Fort Worth   | 3,646,812            | 2006        |
| Social Security Disability Income   | 18,105,000           | 2004        |
| Social Security Income  | 125,942,000          | 2004        |
| Subsidized Child Care   | 27,119,907           | 2006        |
| TANF - Cash assistance  | \$6,089,115          | 2006        |
| TANF Choices - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families<br>includes employment services and case management | 4,183,150            | 2006        |
| Trade Act Services  | 367,982              | 2006        |
| Veterans' Employment and Training   | 571,291              | 2005        |
| Workforce Investment Act  | 13,633,618           | 2006        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$449,948,810</b> |             |

\*38 county area allocation administered by the Tarrant County Public Health Dept.

**B. Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS – Not Applicable**

**C. Specific HOPWA Objectives – Not Applicable**